



**State of Tennessee
Department of Health
Bureau of Health Licensure and Regulation
Division of Health Related Boards
227 French Landing, Suite 300
Heritage Place MetroCenter
Nashville, TN 37243
tennessee.gov/health**

**ATTN: NOTIFICATION TO HEALTH CARE LICENSEES OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE DATABASE**

December 15, 2006

Dear Licensee,

In accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated §53-10-304, the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance has established a program to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of Schedule II, III, IV & V controlled substances. Data collection will begin for all dispensers on December 1, 2006.

The program requires a dispenser who is licensed by the State and who dispenses controlled substances within or from outside of the State of Tennessee to submit the required information. All transactions must be submitted at least twice monthly.

All dispensers must register with the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy as soon as possible but no later than December 25, 2006. If you do not dispense Schedule II-IV substances, you need not register. The following activities do not require reporting:

- A drug administered directly to a patient;
- Any drug dispensed by a licensed health care facility provided that the quantity dispensed is limited to an amount adequate to treat the patient for a maximum of forty-eight (48) hours;
- Any drug sample dispensed;
- Any facility that is registered by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration as a narcotic treatment program and is subject to the record keeping provisions of 21 CFR 1304.24.
- Dispensing to inpatients in hospitals or nursing homes (exemption does not apply to assisted living)
- Dispensing to inpatients in hospices (exemption does not apply to home hospice or hospice in an assisted living facility)

Registration as a dispenser with the Board of Pharmacy, Controlled Substance Database may be accomplished by regular mail or email. Their address is:

Tennessee Board of Pharmacy
Controlled Substance Database
500 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1149
Controlled.SubstanceDatabase@state.tn.us
(615)741-2718 or Fax (615) 741-2722

The contractor for data collection is Optimum Technology, Inc. Please contact Optimum Technology for further information on how to obtain a User Name and password. Mailing address:

Optimum Technology, Inc.
100 E Campus View Blvd
Suite 380
Columbus, OH 43235
Phone Number: 866-683-9771
Email address: tnrxreport@otech.com

You will find the manual for reporting at the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, Controlled Substance Database Program website at:

http://www.state.tn.us/commerce/boards/pharmacy/controlled_substance.

THE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE:

Initial Reporting Period: December 1-15, 2006

Initial Reporting Deadline: December 25, 2006

The deadline for reporting dispensing between the 1st and 15th of each month is the 25th of that month. The deadline for reporting dispensing between the 16th and the last day of the month is the 10th of the next month. Dispensers are encouraged to report prior to the deadline in order to have time to correct any rejected submissions. Dispensers may report on a more frequent basis but must report at least twice monthly.

Failure of a dispenser to register and/or report may be a violation of the practice act and subject the dispenser to disciplinary action.

This data is being collected to assist you in making better prescribing choices for your patients. A letter will be sent at a later date to instruct you as to how you can access the data.

Any questions regarding the program can be directed to the Board of Pharmacy at the above number and email address.

Sincerely,

Robbie H. Bell
Director of Health Related Boards

